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**REQUEST
FOR
CONTINUED EXAMINATION (RCE)
TRANSMITTAL**

Subsection (b) of 35 USC 132, effective on May 29, 2000, provides for continued examination of an utility or plant application filed on or after June 8, 1995.

See The American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA)

Application No.	09/157,884
Filing Date	September 21, 1998
First Named Inventor	Andres Vega-Garcia
Group Art Unit	2142
Examiner Name	Beatriz Pieto
Attorney Docket No	210606

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application.

NOTE: 37 CFR 1.114 is effective on May 29, 2000. If the above-identified application was filed prior to May 29, 2000, applicant may wish to consider filing a continued prosecution application (CPA) under 37 CFR 1.53(d) instead of a RCE to be eligible for the patent term adjustment provisions of the AIPA. See Changes to Application Examination and Provisional Application Practice, Final Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 50092 (Aug. 16, 2000); Interim Rule, 65 Fed. Reg. 14865 (Mar. 20, 2000); 1233 Off. Gaz. Pat. Office 47 (Apr. 11, 2000), which established RCE practice.

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Technology Center 2100

1. Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114

- a. Previously submitted
 - i. Consider the amendment(s)/reply under 37 CFR 1.116 previously filed on (Any unentered amendment(s) referred to above will be entered.)
 - ii. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on
 - iii. Other:
- b. Enclosed
 - i. Amendment/Reply
 - ii. Affidavit(s)/Declaration(s)
 - iii. Information Disclosure Statement (IDS)
 - iv. Form PTO-1449
 - v. Copies of documents listed in Form PTO-1449
 - vi. Other:

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2. Miscellaneous

- a. Suspension of action on the above-identified application is requested under 37 CFR 1.103(c) for a period of months. (Period of suspension shall not exceed 3 months; fee under 37 CFR 1.17(i) required.)
- b. Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27
- c. Other:

3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed.

- a. The following fees are enclosed:
 - i. RCE fee of \$750.00 (large entity) required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)
 - ii. One-month extension of time fee of \$110.00 (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)
 - iii. Suspension of action fee of \$130.00 (37 CFR 1.17(i))
 - iv. Other:

TOTAL FEES ENCLOSED \$750.00

- b. Check in the amount of \$ enclosed
- c. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge the above fees to Deposit Account No. 12-1216
- d. The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any deficiencies in the above fees or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 12-1216

Request For Continued Examination Transmittal

Application No. 09/157,884

Attorney Docket No. 210606

SIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTORNEY OR AGENT REQUIRED

Name (Print/Type)	Margaret M. Kelton	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	44182
Signature	<i>Margaret M. Kelton</i>	Date	January 6, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION UNDER 37 CFR 1.8

I hereby certify that this RCE Transmittal is, on the date indicated below, being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Box RCE, Washington, DC 20231, or being facsimile transmitted to the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office.

Name (Print/Type)			
Signature		Date	January 6, 2003

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 CFR 1.10

I hereby certify that this RCE Transmittal and all accompanying documents are being deposited with the United States Postal Service on January 6, 2003, in an envelope as "EXPRESS MAIL POST OFFICE TO ADDRESSEE" service under 37 CFR 1.10, Mailing Label Number CV 055946076 US, addressed to: Box RCE, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231.

Name (Print/Type)	Melissa Goodrich		
Signature	<i>Melissa Goodrich</i>	Date	January 6, 2003